

Serial #: 10/056,790  
Reference #: EX02-004C

### AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims to read as follows:

1-7. (Canceled)

8. (Currently amended) A method of screening for agents that modulate the interaction of an Rhomboid Related Protein (RRP) polypeptide with an RRP binding target, comprising:

- a) expressing a recombinant RRP polypeptide,
- b) incubating the recombinant RRP polypeptide with an RRP binding target and a candidate RRP modulating agent and
- c) determining whether said candidate RRP modulating agent modulates the binding of RRP polypeptide with the RRP binding target,

wherein RRP is selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NO:2 (RRP1), SEQ ID NO:4 (RRP2), SEQ ID NO:6 (RRP3), SEQ ID NO:8 (RRP4), SEQ ID NO:10 (RRP5), SEQ ID NO:12 (RRP6), SEQ ID NO:14 (RRP7), SEQ ID NO:16 (RRP8), and SEQ ID NO:46 (mRRP1).

9. (Original claim) The method according to claim 8 wherein said binding target is selected from the group consisting of TGF $\alpha$ , EGF, and amphiregulin.

10. (Original claim) The method according to claim 8 wherein said binding target is TGF $\alpha$ .

11. (Original claim) The method according to claim 8 wherein said candidate RRP modulating agent is an antibody.

12. (Original claim) The method according to claim 8 wherein said candidate RRP modulating agent is a small organic molecule.

13-51. (Canceled).

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